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Mobilization

1. The class of 1928, [redacted] first registered at the Voenkomat in October 1948 and subsequently underwent 30 days of preliminary training. [redacted] The training, which was of eight hours' duration daily, was subdivided into four hours of close order drill, two hours of infantry tactics, and two hours of weapons familiarization. Twice a week a one-hour political indoctrination lecture was conducted.
2. The class of 1929 registered at the Voenkomat for the first time during May and June 1949. That class did not undergo the preliminary training as did the class of 1928. [redacted] the class of 1929 was called before the Voenkomat twice, after which all of the members of the class were drafted. The class of 1929 had its 110 hours of training in Allentsteig [48-41N, 15-19E] some time in July and August 1949. The class of 1930 had to register at the Voenkomat for the first time in February 1950, and was drafted sometime in July or August 1950. [redacted] concerning the classes of 1931, 1932, and 1933 some members of these classes arrived 23 July 1952 as replacements (approximately 60 men) in the 67th Separate AAA Battalion in Schwabach [48-08N, 16-28E], Austria. [redacted] all the EM had already undergone basic training, of approximately 2 1/2 months' duration, in the USSR. I do [redacted] all of them passed through the replacement center at Bruck [47-25N, 15-17E]. The 60 EM were from Sverdlovsk [48-05N, 39-41E], Saratov [51-34N, 45-06E], and Moscow of the Moscow Military District. [redacted] further replacements had arrived in other units of the 13th Guards Mechanized Division
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3.

4.

5.

the Labor Reserve Office

[redacted] draftees who occupied key positions on kolkhoz farms were exempted from military service until replacements could be found for them. Once these replacements were found, the exemptees had to undergo military training.

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6.

7.

[redacted] train left Rava-Russkaya early in May 1949 and carried only troops. There were approximately 400 artillery EM and 600 infantry EM and no other services were represented. The train was escorted by approximately 80 NCOs, all cadre personnel from the basic training camp in Rava-Russkaya. None of the troops carried individual arms but they were equipped with cargo packs and canteens. The train travelled from Rava-Russkaya to Lvov [4950N-2400E], then, via Mukachevo [4827N-2244E] to Chop [4826N-2244E] and Budapest [4730N-1905E], and then on to Vienna [4812N-1622E] and Bruck. Twenty-five men were assigned to each railroad car, each of which was equipped with wooden bunks for the men to sleep on. Nowhere en route were the railroad cars changed. The only time the men left the cars was in Chop, where a roster was called and the personal papers of all soldiers were checked.

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[redacted] the transport went all the way from Rava-Russkaya to Bruck without changing railroad cars; only the engines were changed.

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8.

[redacted] replacement center [redacted] in Bruck. The center was operated by a small group of soldiers, such as clerks and cooks, totalling not more than 50.

[redacted] an artillery park containing approximately 25 heavy howitzers.

[redacted] a heavy howitzer regiment was stationed in the camp. [redacted] the barracks purportedly used for quartering the members of the artillery regiment, very few soldiers in the vicinity.

9.

[redacted] units stationed in the Soviet Zone of Austria: Of some 1200 men comprising the 45th Gds Mecz Regt of the 13th Gds Mecz Div, about 200 men were of the class of 1928; of some 500 men in the 67th Sep AAA Bn of the Fifty-ninth Air Army, about 30% were of the class of 1928.

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Demobilization

10. All members of the classes of 1925, 1926, and 1927 were demobilized in the following manner: the class of 1925 was demobilized in the fall of 1949, the class of 1926 in the fall of 1950, and the class of 1927 in the fall of 1951. Those members of the class of 1928 who were drafted in 1948 were demobilized in December 1951. The majority of the class of 1928 and the class of 1929 had not been considered for demobilization at the time of my defection.

General

11. All units in the Soviet Zone of Austria were up to their full war-time strength. 50X1-HUM

The 45th Gds Mecz Regt consisted of approximately 150 officers and 1200-1300 EM. The 67th Sep AAA Bn consisted of 47 officers and 500 EM (100-150 NCO's); present for duty were approximately 35 officers and 510 EM.

12. The 45th Gds Mecz Regt consisted of 200 men of the class of 1928 (100 NCO's - 100 EM), 500 men of the class of 1929 (100 NCO's - 400 EM), 260 men of the class of 1930 (60 NCO's - 200 EM), and 260 men of the class of 1931 (60 NCO's - 200 EM). The rest of the men, none of whom were NCOs, were members of the classes of 1932 and 1933. 50X1-HUM

13. The leave policy in effect for officers was as follows. Officers were granted 60 days' leave, including travel time, per year. They were allowed to take their leave throughout the year provided they had reserved the time in advance. Notification had to be made at least three months prior to taking leave. EM did not have regular yearly leave time allotted to them. The only time an EM was allowed to go on leave was when an emergency arose at his home or when he performed his duties in an exceptionally meritorious manner. On several occasions EM who reported politically unreliable fellow soldiers to their superiors received leaves as a reward for their so-called alertness. In all of the above-mentioned instances the EM concerned never received more than 25 days of leave. At the same time the EM were authorized to go only to their respective homes.

14. The 45th Gds Mecz Regt was largely comprised of young officers, fresh out of military schools and academies. The 67th Sep AAA Bn also had the same type of officers. All of the officers were regular army officers. 50X1-HUM

The only reservists were officers who were wounded during the war, or who were otherwise incapacitated. In the winter of 1951 approximately 10 such reserve officers, who were more or less disabled, arrived in the 45th Gds Mecz Regt as replacements. Everyone was very much surprised since that was a very unusual procedure. In case of emergency, officers would be commissioned from NCO ranks.

Labor Service

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Graduates of factory work schools were called into military service only after appropriate replacements were found to fill their civilian vacancies.
approximately 90% of all men legally liable for military service were actually inducted.

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[redacted] in January or February 1951 approximately 800 women draftees arrived at the replacement center of Bruck, and were then distributed to different units throughout the Soviet Zone of Austria. The women worked mostly in kitchens and in mess halls. [redacted]

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[redacted] Apart from the fact that they wore skirts instead of trousers, the women's uniforms were identical to those of army privates. [redacted]

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Military Districts

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16. [redacted] military districts in the USSR: Ural MD (Uralskiy), Carpathian MD (Zakarpatskiy), Odessa MD (Odesskiy), Maritime MD (Primorskiy), Moscow MD (Moskovskiy), and the Novosibirsk MD (Novosibirskiy). All of the above-named military districts were anywhere from 50,000 to 100,000 sq km in area. [redacted]

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17. [redacted]

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